

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 20-22.

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled)

16. **(Currently amended)** A method of determining if a cell is neoplastic, comprising the step of comparing expression of a ~~first~~ *hPNQALRE* gene in a first cell suspected of being neoplastic with expression of a ~~second~~ *hPNQALRE* gene in a second cell which is normal, wherein said ~~first~~ and ~~said second~~ *hPNQALRE* genes comprise comprises a coding sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO:1;
- (b) SEQ ID NO:3;
- (c) SEQ ID NO:5;
- (d) SEQ ID NO:7;
- (e) nucleotides 76-114 of SEQ ID NO:5;
- (f) nucleotides 503-564 of SEQ ID NO:3; and
- (g) nucleotides 542-603 of SEQ ID NO:5, wherein over-expression of ~~said first~~ *hPNQALRE* gene in said first cell indicates neoplasia in said first cell.

17. **(Previously presented)** The method of claims 16 wherein said first cell is a lung cancer cell.

18. **(Previously presented)** The method of claims 16 wherein said first cell is an epithelial cancer cell.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claims 16 wherein said first cell is a colon cancer cell.

20. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the second cell is a known normal cell from the same source as the first cell.

21. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the neoplasia is selected from the group consisting of carcinoma, melanoma, and sarcoma.

22. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the neoplasia is colorectal carcinoma or non-small cell lung carcinoma.